



Sen. Joe Zarelli  
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#### **Committee Assignments**

Capital Budget (Chair)  
Ways & Means (Vice Chair)  
Education (Vice Chair)  
Economic Development  
(Vice Chair)  
Financial Services, Insurance  
& Housing

#### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

##### **Wednesday, Feb. 12**

8:00 am: Senate Children  
& Family Services  
Committee hears Human  
Cloning Bill

10:00 am: Senate Floor  
session on several  
regulatory reform bills and  
a repeal of the ergonomics  
rules.

##### **Thursday, Feb. 13**

3:30 pm: Ways & Means  
Committee, SHR 4: Public  
hearing on SB 5404, Gov.  
Locke's 2003-05 operating

# Sen. Joe Zarelli's

## UPDATE FROM OLYMPIA

2/10/03

Dear Friends,

We are now a quarter of the way through the 2003 Session. We're still hearing bills in committees and have already passed a few Senate bills on to the House.

Last week, I told you that my "felony murder" legislation passed the Senate. It has since passed the House and will be signed by Gov. Gary Locke on Wednesday, Feb. 12, at 3:30 pm in Senate Hearing Room 2. Thanks again to all of you who came to testify! We made a compelling argument. To have a bill go through the entire legislative process in such a short amount of time is an amazing thing.

I want to let you know about another piece of legislation I sponsored to help retain family wage jobs in Southwest Washington.

Most of us realize that Washington's regulations and B&O tax burden are notoriously tough on businesses, especially small businesses. When businesses can't operate, jobs are lost – plain and simple.

Over the past few years, I've met with scores of local small business owners. A few questions that invariable come up are, "When is government going to do something to help rather than hurt businesses in our state? Don't people realize that jobs are attached to businesses? What can the state do to help our economy?"

After one such meeting with representatives from WaferTech, I introduced Senate Bill 5725. This legislation provides specific tax incentives to support the semiconductor industry. Companies like WaferTech are being courted by numerous states that want the family wage jobs and the economic stability they provide.

By encouraging businesses like WaferTech with tax and manufacturing incentives, we can level the playing field and keep these important jobs here in our region.

As always, please contact my office with any concerns or questions.

Sen. Joe Zarelli, 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

#### **Bill passed to preserve murder convictions**

*Sen. Zarelli's counter to court ruling ready for Locke*

The House on Wednesday gave Sen. Joe Zarelli a legislative achievement, making his bill to preserve hundreds of murder convictions the first passed by both chambers this session.

"Although the budget and economic development are foremost on our minds, this is something I'm glad to see taken care of," said Zarelli, R-Ridgefield.

-- *The Columbian*, 2/6/03

#### **Legislature OKs felony murder bill**

State Sen. Joe Zarelli, R-Ridgefield, sponsored SB 5001 in response to a state Supreme Court ruling last October.

"We're talking about very serious violent offenders who, because of their lifestyles, are likely to re-offend," Zarelli said. "We're not talking about 16-year-olds that get into a fight, and one of them falls and hits his head and dies. A lot of these (victims) are people who have been beaten to death, including children. It's very, very gruesome."

-- *Longview Daily News*, 2/8/03